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OLIVELLA PYCNA

By D. S. and E. W. Gifford

On July 9, 1941, we collected seven living examples of *Olivella pycna*[1] on the beach at Cresent City, Del Norte County, California. The following day we took another at Port Orford, Curry County, Oregon, but failed on the 11th to find any at Trinidad Head, Humboldt County, California.

The University of California Museum of Anthropology possesses 885 archeological examples of this species from various ancient Indian mounds in Central California, as follows: from Kern County, 1; from the Delta region of San Joaquin, Sacramento, and Contra Costa Counties, 647; from Napa County, 1; from San Francisco Bay shores (Alameda and Santa Clara Counties), 229; from the shores of Drake's Bay and Tomales Bay, Marin County, 7.

Bolinas, Marin County, is the type locality for *Olivella pycna*. There it was dredged from 3 to 4 fathoms depth. Mr. Allyn G. Smith, who kindly checked our identification, has a series dredged near Hog Island, Tomales Bay, from a depth of 5 fathoms. The University of California Department of Zoology has several taken littorally in Tomales Bay. Messrs. Tom and John Q. Burch have kindly supplied us with littoral specimens from Morro Bay, San

[1] S. Stillman Berry, An Undescribed Californian Olivella, Proc. Malacological Society of London, vol. 21, pp. 262–265, 1935.

Luis Obispo County. It seems unlikely that the Indians dredged their specimens. Perhaps beach worn specimens and additional littoral collecting grounds not yet found by conchologists were their sources of supply. Except for the seven specimens from Marin County mounds, all are from mounds far removed from the habitat of the species. Either they were traded inland by coastal Indians or excursions were made to the coast by inhabitants of the interior.

In northwestern California *Olivella pycna* is fairly common in Indian necklaces, dress fringes, etc. Among examples in the University of California Museum of Anthropology are 1–1505 (necklace) from the Hupa Indians, and 1–2334 (fringed buckskin dress) from the Yurok, Karok, or Hupa Indians. *Olivella pycna* is usually used along with young *Olivella biplicata* of about the same size. Stearns describes a string of "probably over a thousand shells"[2] of *Olivella biplicata* and *Olivella intorta* from the Hupa Indians of Humboldt County. His so-called *intorta* is probably *pycna*. No doubt the beach at Cresent City was one source of supply of both species for the modern Indians.

Dr. S. Stillman Berry has checked our identification to the extent of asserting that ten archeological specimens from Santa Clara County and one live-collected shell from Crescent City sent to him "are *Olivella pycna* without any reasonable doubt."

FIRST RECORD OF *BARTLETTIA* IN PARAGUAY

By ALBERTO CARCELLES

Curator of Mollusks at the Argentine Museum

The single species in the genus *Bartlettia* is *B. stefanensis* Moricand, from the Huallaga River, affluent of the Amazonas, in Ecuador. Dr. F. H. Schade sent to the Museo Argentino de Sciencias Naturales, twelve specimens collected in Arroyo Guazu, Paraguay.

Bartlettia lives in the waterfalls, incrusted in hard rocks ("tosca").

[2] Robert E. C. Stearns, Ethno-Conchology—A Study of Primitive Money, Report of the U. S. National Museum for the Year ending June 30, 1887, p. 326, 1889.